



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **FOSTER GRANDPARENT SPENDS TIME GIVING YOUTH OFFENDERS HOPE**

*Dedicated Foster Grandparent has Spent 17,000 Hours Helping Youth Offenders*

**SACRAMENTO** - The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) *Spotlight* features the hard work of Christine Perez. Ms. Perez, a Foster Grandparent, has spent the past 17 years of her life counseling young boys in Juvenile Hall.

Many of the boys she helps are orphans or their parents are incarcerated. In many instances, Chris Perez is one of the few positive adult role models in the boy's lives. Grandma Chris, as the boys affectionately call her, can relate well to the young men because she was orphaned at a very young age and raised by her older brother. When she became an adult she vowed to help children who were being raised without parents. She spends between 80-90 hours each month meeting with the boys and talking to them or helping them with their classroom studies.

"Christine has spent 17 years and thousands of hours ensuring the boys take full advantage of any second chances," Executive Director of GO SERV, David Muraki said. "She helps them in school and in life, she is the epitome of a dedicated volunteer."

The GO SERV Spotlight recognizes people and programs, on a weekly basis, making a difference in their communities through service and volunteerism. To view the full Spotlight story, visit the GO SERV website at [www.goserv.ca.gov](http://www.goserv.ca.gov). Visitors to the GO SERV site can nominate someone for a Spotlight award and/or find a volunteer opportunity in their community through the volunteer match program.

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